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## ADVOCATE OF PEACE AND ARBITRATION.

JUNE-JULY, 1891.

## OUR ANNIVERSARY.

No public anniversary was held this year, and it was thought wise to defer the public reception by the ladies to a time less crowded with other engagements than "Anniversary week." But the business meeting called out a larger attendance than usual. A number of new faces of both sexes gave encouragement to the expanding work. The record of the meeting by the Recording Secretary, and the annual report of the Directors appear on previous pages. The latter contains the principal items in the reports of the Treasurer of the Society and also of the Peace Fund, with important suggestions for the coming year. We trust our readers will give these papers a careful reading. A sketch of our newly elected President will be found on the next page.

## A CONTRAST.

Very near the time when a New Orleans mob connived at by the Governor of Louisiana and the Mayor of New Orleans and afterward elaborately defended by the Grand Jury which was appointed to arraign the leaders at the bar of justice, the United States Life Saving heroes, under the command of Hon. Sumner I. Kimball, were exposing their lives to save the crew of an Italian bark threatened with death by shipwreck. The former indicated a local "craze," the latter, the feeling of the nation.

## "REVENGE IS SWEET."

That depends on the moral appetite. Certain Italians among us are reported to have said, "Italians love revenge." Indians are remarkable for the same trait of character. It was very prominent in the clans of ancient Scotland. Poems and romances depict and dwell upon its sweetness. A man by the name of Hutchins entered the stable from which he had been discharged in Boston and shot his former employer dead. He felt that he had been injured, but he was sent to State Prison for life as a man dangerous to society. Revenge has always been depended on as one of the passions which give war its "sweetness" to those who engage in the killing. It is a "natural" trait, human nature being what it is. But it is a vile, bloodthirsty appetite and Jesus Christ emphasized the duty of suppressing it. It is no more to be gratified or cultivated than the lust for other men's goods or other men's wives. It is not love of justice, though that noble trait enters into and is vitiated by it. It is a personal pique, a selfish desire. Its gratification is sweet only to the badness in a man.

## SATAN CAME ALSO.

Such is always the case. There is no maximum of good without a minimum of evil. On the other hand, it is not often that unmixed and unmitigated evil appears. In any concourse of the sons of Belial, a son of God is almost sure to be. These thoughts arise often and especially on Memorial or Decoration days. The memories of self-sacrifice which the graves of soldiers awaken, kindle anew some love of militarism. Just at this time the public schools abound in the prize drills of boys' brigades. In one New England city the boys have been armed with guns! In another the young ladies of a Christian Seminary have been drilled in semi-military uniform and according to the manual of arms. The absurdity of this performance begins to be apparent to its promoters, but its silliness and unladylikeness is surpassed by its bad influence on character. Of course it depraves taste and discounts womanhood. The evil effects that have been noted on boys in England are reproduced in America reinforced and strengthened by the example of those to whom boys and men are wont to look for superior delicacy, refinement and spirituality. A military drill in a girls' school is as absurd as a tiger drill of a company of kit-tens. To familiarize the minds of youth with scenes of slaughter was known to be the tendency of much literature, classic, historic, romantic and poetic. It has long been felt that music had been successfully invoked to throw its fascination over scenes of mortal strife, but to teach girls that the apparel of soldiers and the manual by which they are drilled to fight is essential to female education is a new step. The inventiveness of those whose employment is to amuse and to instruct youth is truly remarkable. It bears marks of genius. Soon we may hear of muskets issued to Vassar, cannon to Lassell, cavalry horses and arms to Wellesley, and all the accoutrements of the soldier to these and other institutions for the higher education of women. Thus their love of finery like that of the young men will kindle military ardor. They will sing the songs of the camp and try to feel as they imagine the West Point cadets do adorned with buttons. Some may aspire to be military leaders and become Generals. We may soon look for the stately and stiff movements of the march in kitchen and table girls. The mistresses will swathe their muscles in military uniforms and move in ball-rooms as gracefully as wooden toys and file into and out of church with the air of drilled and disciplined fighters. Of course all this will sweep away the arguments of the anti-woman's rights people who have maintained that owing to certain physical disabilities such as are periodical to women and mothers, the gentle sex could not be soldiers. Seeing is believing. What is done in miniature may be done in magnificence. Hence we may soon look for armies of Amazons.